

Message Text

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TO ALL NATO CAPITALS

AMEMBASSY STOCKHOLM

INFO USMISSION EC BRUSSELS

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: NATO, SENV, UK

SUBJECT: CCMS: ENERGY CONSERVATION PROJECT (UK)

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1. SUMMARY: US CCMS TEAM MET JULY 20 WITH REPRESENTATIVES OF DEPARTMENT OF TRADE AND INDUSTRY, DTI (INCLUDING E.C. WILLIAMS, CHIEF SCIENTIFIC ADVISER), DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENT, DOE (J.D. BLETCHLEY IN CENTRAL UNIT FOR ENVIRONMENTAL POLLUTION), DOE BUILDING RESEARCH ESTABLISHMENT (M.A. HUMPHREYS) AND FOREIGN OFFICE (J.L. TAYLOR, HEAD OF DEPARTMENT OF SCIENCE, INDUSTRY AND ENERGY). TEAM ALSO VISITED BUILDING RESEARCH ESTABLISHMENT IN WATFORD AND ELECTRICITY COUNCIL UNCLASSIFIED

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(ROBERT PHILLIPS).

DISCUSSIONS AT DTI SHOWED THAT UK INTERESTED IN TECHNOLOGICAL COOPERATION IN ENERGY CONSERVATION

FIELD, PARTICULARLY WITH RESPECT TO RECOVERY OF WASTE HEAT FROM POWER STATIONS AND ENERGY STORAGE IN THIS RESPECT. HOWEVER, WILLIAMS (DTI), TAYLOR (FCO) AND BLETCHLEY (DOE) ALL STATED USUAL UK ARGUMENTS FOR PREFERRING PROJECTS OF THIS NATURE IN OECD. US (HODSOLL) POINTED OUT THAT OECD STUDIES CONCENTRATED ON ECONOMIC ASPECTS ENERGY PROBLEM AND THAT CCMS PILOT STUDY METHODOLOGY PROVIDED STREAMLINED MECHANISM FOR ACCOMPLISHMENT OF SHORT TERM APPLIED

TECHNOLOGY RESULTS. IT WAS AGREED THAT US WOULD BE BACK IN TOUCH WITH DTI AND DOE WITH SPECIFIC PROPOSALS RESULTING FROM ENERGY CONSERVATION TRIP WITH A VIEW TO CALLING A MEETING OF INTERESTED COUNTRIES, PERHAPS IN THE FALL.

DURING AFTERNOON SESSION WITH DOE'S BUILDING RESEARCH ESTABLISHMENT (BRE) DIRECTOR J.B. DICK AND OTHERS, DICK EXPRESSED INTEREST IN FURTHER COLLABORATION WITH US AND OTHERS PROVIDING ALL PARTNERS MAKE SUBSTANTIVE CONTRIBUTION. A.F.E. WISE, BRE CHIEF ENVIRONMENTAL DESIGN ENGINEERING DIVISION, SAID THERE WAS NEED FOR INTERNATIONAL COLLABORATION ON METHODOLOGY FOR EVALUATING FIELD PROJECTS. FOLLOWING MEETING WITH DICK, US TEAM WAS TAKEN TO BRE LABORATORIES WHERE PRESENTATIONS WERE MADE ON BRE THERMAL COMFORT STUDIES, SOLAR GAINS TO BUILDINGS AND METHODS OF PREDICTION, AND ENERGY UTILIZATION IN OFFICES. END SUMMARY.

2. MORNING SESSION WITH DTI, FCO AND DOE REPRESENTATIVES OPENED WITH US PRESENTATION WITH RESPECT TO CCMS ENERGY PROJECTS (SOLAR, GEOTHERMAL AND ENERGY CONSERVATION) AS WELL AS PRELIMINARY IDEAS WITH RESPECT TO GENERAL SCOPE OF ENERGY CONSERVATION PROJECT. US TEAM ALSO DESCRIBED MAJOR IDEAS PICKED UP IN OTHER COUNTRIES VISITED.
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3. WILLIAMS (DTI) GAVE BASIC PRESENTATION ON HMG ORGANIZATION WITH RESPECT TO ENERGY. HE NOTED THAT WITH EXCEPTION OF OIL INDUSTRY ALL ENERGY INDUSTRY WAS NATIONALIZED: ELECTRICITY, NATURAL GAS, (BASICALLY FROM THE NORTH SEA) AND COAL (BRITISH COAL BOARD). WILLIAMS STATED THAT DTI MINISTER (PETER WALKER) APPOINTED CHAIRMEN AND MEMBERS OF BOARDS OF THESE NATIONALIZED INDUSTRIES. DTI ALSO APPROVES ENERGY INDUSTRY CAPITAL EXPENDITURES, WHICH ARE NORMALLY RAISED AS RESULT OF GOVERNMENT BOND ISSUES, AND GENERAL LINES OF RESEARCH. IN THIS LAST RESPECT, WILLIAMS REPORTS THAT EACH OF THE THREE ENERGY INDUSTRIES HAS ITS OWN R AND D PROGRAM. (ELECTRIC

INDUSTRY R AND D PROGRAM IS FUNDED AT LEVEL OF L22 MILLION ANNUALLY.) FINALLY, WILLIAMS POINTED OUT THAT DTI IS CHARGED WITH INSURING THAT THE BOARDS OF THESE PUBLIC COMPANIES PAY SOME ATTENTION TO THE FUTURE, FOR EXAMPLE, WITH RESPECT TO ENVIRONMENTAL CONCERNS. WILLIAMS POINTED OUT THAT TRANSPORTATION

QUESTIONS WERE HANDLED IN DOE.

4. WILLIAMS REPORTS THAT, WHILE THE THREE PUBLIC ENERGY COMPANIES ARE COMPETITIVE IN TERMS OF SUPPLYING ENERGY TO THE PUBLIC, THEY SHARE THE RESULTS OF THEIR INDIVIDUAL R AND D PROGRAMS. BECAUSE OF THE COMPETITIVENESS OF THESE THREE ENERGY INDUSTRIES, EACH INDUSTRY WILL ATTEMPT TO ADVANCE ENERGY SAVINGS AS A FACTOR IN GETTING INDUSTRY TO USE ONE FORM OF POWER OVER ANOTHER. FOR EXAMPLE, THE ELECTRICITY BOARD DOES A CERTAIN AMOUNT OF R AND D WITH RESPECT TO ELECTRICITY SAVINGS IN INDUSTRY.

5. ON THE BUILDING SIDE, WILLIAMS POINTED OUT THAT NEW BUILDING STANDARDS WERE ABOUT TO BE ISSUED. IN RESPONSE TO QUESTION, DTI STATED THAT PORTIONS OF CODES DEALING WITH ENERGY CONSERVATION TECHNOLOGY COULD BE MADE AVAILABE TO US.

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6. WILLIAMS STATED THAT PRESENT UK ENERGY REQUIREMENTS ARE MET AS FOLLOWS: 70 PERCENT FROM ELECTRICITY, 10 PERCENT NUCLEAR, AND 20 PERCENT OIL. GORE (ENERGY TECHNOLOGY DIVISION, DTI) STATED THAT ELECTRICITY RATE STRUCTURE HAD RESULTED IN GENERAL LEVELLING OF DIFFERENCES BETWEEN PEAK AND OFF-PEAK DEMAND. UK LOOKS TO NUCLEAR POWER AS BEING PRINCIPAL SOURCE OF ELECTRICITY IN FUTURE, AND PROJECTS THAT NUCLEAR GENERATED ELECTRICITY WILL PROVIDE 50 PERCENT OF ALL POWER REQUIRED IN UK BY YEAR 2000. PRESENT GROWTH RATES FOR ELECTRICITY AND OVERALL ENERGY CONSUMPTION ARE, RESPECTIVELY, 3 PERCENT AND 2.5 PERCENT. WILLIAMS NOTED THAT SINCE NORTH SEA FINDS THERE HAS BEEN RAPID GROWTH IN NATURAL GAS CONSUMPTION.

7. WILLIAMS STATED THERE WAS NO AREA OF ENERGY RESEARCH WHICH WAS NOT BEING DEALT WITH IN UK EXCEPT WHERE UK HAD MADE EXPRESS DECISION NOT TO: E.G. SOLAR ENERGY. WILLIAMS NOTED THAT PERIODICALLY PROJECTS INVOLVING USE OF TIDAL BARRAGES WERE ADVOCATED. THESE WERE UNIFORMLY TURNED DOWN BY

DTI AS BEING UNECONOMICAL. ONE OF PRINCIPAL PROBLEMS WITH TIDAL POWER, ACCORDING TO WILLIAMS, IS THAT ONCE INSTALLATION IN PLACE ITS CAPACITY CANNOT BE INCREASED.

8. WILLIAMS STATED THAT DTI WAS NO LONGER ENGAGED

IN MAGNETO-HYDRODYNAMICS WORK IN LIGHT OF DIFFICULTY OF OBTAINING MATERIALS FOR THIS PURPOSE IN UK. DTI HAS ALSO IN THE PAST BEEN ENGAGED IN SOME RESEARCH WITH RESPECT TO THERMIONIC GENERATION, FUEL CELLS AND HYDROGEN ECONOMY.

9. UK IS PRESENTLY INVOLVED IN RESEARCH WITH RESPECT TO BATTERY POWERED VEHICLES, AND SEVERAL DEMONSTRATION BUSES USING LEAD ACID BATTERIES ARE PRESENTLY IN OPERATION. WITH RESPECT TO BATTERIES, UK IS PARTICULARLY CONCERNED WITH POSSIBILITY OF UNCLASSIFIED

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USE OF SODIUM SULPHATE. EVIDENTLY, THROUGHOUT-UK, ELECTRIC VEHICLES ARE USED TO DELIVER MILK, AND BRITISH POST OFFICE IS THINKING OF USING ELECTRIC VEHICLES FOR MAIL DELIVERY. ELECTRIC VEHICLES IN UK ARE NOT SUBJECT TO 10 PERCENT "CAR TAX."

10. DTI AND PREDECESSOR MINISTRIES HAVE CONDUCTED EXTENSIVE RESEARCH SINCE 1936 ON QUESTION OF RECOVERY OF WASTE HEAT FROM POWER STATIONS. WILLIAMS STATED THAT UK WAS PARTICULARLY INTERESTED IN DEVELOPING NEW IDEAS IN THIS RESPECT. HE STRESSED THE TREMENDOUS WASTE OF HOT WATER, AND NOTED THAT HOT WATER RECOVERY HAD BEEN USED IN PAST FOR FISH BREEDING, HEATING OF GREEN HOUSES AND TO RAISE TOMATOES, AND IN BUILDINGS. GAGE (CEQ) POINTED OUT THAT DR. MENDEN OF GERMAN MINISTRY OF RESEARCH HAD INDICATED THAT QUESTION OF RECOVERY OF WASTE HEAT FROM POWER STATIONS WAS NUMBER ONE GERMAN RESEARCH PRIORITY IN ENERGY FIELD. WILLIAMS POINTED OUT THAT UK HAD CONSIDERED DISTRICT HEATING IN THIS RESPECT, BUT HAD QUICKLY RUN INTO PROBLEM OF ENERGY STORAGE. IN THIS CONNECTION, UK HAS EXPERIMENTED WITH USE OF EXHAUSTED NATURAL GAS RESERVOIRS AND AQUIFERS, BUT FOUND PROBLEMS WIT

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